

interest of students in botany and gardening. Since her retirement in 1909, she had been living in Berkeley.

At the annual dinner of the Society on February 25, 1933, the president, Dr. George J. Peirce, after speaking words of memorial for each of these members, asked the membership to rise and remain standing in silence for a few moments in tribute to their memory.—W. L. J.

NOTES AND NEWS

At the Atlantic City meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, December 28-30, 1932, Section G (Botanical Sciences) held a memorial program celebrating the centenary of the birth of Julius von Sachs (1832-1897). On this occasion, a paper by Dr. D. H. Campbell, of Stanford University, on the Sachs text-book and its influence on botany in America, was read by Dr. G. J. Peirce of Stanford.

At the Ann Arbor meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, in November, 1932, Dr. D. H. Campbell of Stanford University read a paper on "Some problems of the Hawaiian flora."

Wilhelm N. Suksdorf, pioneer field botanist of the Pacific Northwest, was struck and killed by a train near his home in Bingen, Washington, on October 3, 1932. Probably most Pacific Coast botanists who have been engaged in field studies within the state of Washington within the last fifty-five years, have had occasion to make the acquaintance of this most affable, enthusiastic and able German botanist. It became more essential in recent years for students of that flora to seek out Mr. Suksdorf for information regarding exact distribution and other matters pertaining to numerous species bearing Mr. Suksdorf's name or named by him. One could always expect most courteous responses to queries, and Mr. Suksdorf gave freely of his time to accompany botanists to the more obscure localities in his neighborhood. At the time of his death, Mr. Suksdorf was doubtless the senior field botanist of the Pacific Coast, being the last survivor of that list of botanical collectors cited in the Botany of California. According to a note in the journal *Science*, Mr. Suksdorf's herbarium and library have been willed to the State College of Washington.—D. D. KECK.

"Plants of the Rocky Mountain National Park" by Ruth E. Ashton is a publication of the National Park Service designed for the use of tourists. It contains 157 pages with 115 illustrations which are almost wholly photographic.

In the American Journal of Botany for October, 1931, Edna L. Johnson in a paper "On the alleged stimulating action of X-rays upon plants" reports that in the case of tomato, sunberry, sunflower and vetch seedlings no increased growth of the experimental plants over the controls was evidenced by measurements of height and green and dry weight determinations.

The California Botanical Society met December 15, 1932, at 8:00 p. m. in Room 2093, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. Dr. George J. Peirce, the president, occupied the chair. The business meeting was followed by a lecture on the Templeton Crocker Expedition to the Galapagos Islands by Mr. J. T. Howell of the California Academy of Sciences, botanist of the expedition. Mr. Howell gave an account of his impressions and experiences in this fascinating region. The slides which accompanied the lecture assisted the audience materially in forming an accurate idea of the topography, the major plant formations, and some of the more conspicuous of the species native to the islands. Mr. Howell's remarks upon the endemic cacti were especially instructive. After the lecture Dr. H. L. Mason led an open discussion upon endemism. Dr. Mason pointed out that a consideration of distribution in time as well as in space is important to an understanding of present ranges. He emphasized the relation of the area now occupied by a given species to that of the flora of which it is a part and to the distribution and migrations of this flora during past geological eras. This viewpoint called forth spirited comment, leading parts being taken by Dr. L. R. Abrams, Dr. A. W. Herre, Dr. David Keck, Mr. J. T. Howell and Dr. David Goddard.—E. K. CRUM.

A meeting of the Society was held on January 12, 1933, in Room 2093, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. Dr. George J. Peirce, the president, occupied the chair. At the business meeting the present staff of officers was reelected: President, Dr. George J. Peirce; first vice-president, Mr. H. E. McMinn; second vice-president, Dr. H. L. Mason; treasurer, Dr. David D. Keck; secretary, Miss E. Crum. The speaker of the evening, Mr. C. J. Kraebel of the California Experiment Station, U. S. Forest Service, discussed "Erosion Control in Forestry." Mr. Kraebel gave an account of the various methods of control and of the plant species utilized in this work. The slides illustrated areas menaced by destructive erosion, and the effectiveness of the means adopted for control.—E. K. CRUM.

The native bulbs and plants grown by Carl Purdy in his garden at "The Terraces" are listed in his two catalogues for 1933. One of these contains three well-executed colored plates of California lilies, erythroniums and calochorti. These catalogues may be had by addressing him at Ukiah.

The California Academy of Sciences received a number of guests in the new Simson African Hall on April 4, 1933 at 8:15 p. m. in honor of the eightieth anniversary of its founding. The unfinished groups of African wild life were on exhibition in the niches which they will permanently occupy. Dr. C. E. Grunsky, President and Director of the Academy, gave a resumé of the history, endowments and present needs of the institution. Mr. William H. Crocker, President of the Board of Trustees, welcomed the guests and spoke briefly of his interest in the Academy. A social hour followed during which the new East Wing was open for inspection. Refreshments were served by the staff.—MRS. H. P. BRACELIN.